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NEWS RELEASE

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Tax Commission charges Salt Lake County business owner for felony tax evasion

One Salt Lake County business owner has been charged while his partner remains at large on felony tax evasion charges for failure to pay over \$135,000 in State employee withholding taxes.

Michael Anthony Vigil, 30, owner of SLVPA-Salt Lake Valley Corporation, voluntarily surrendered based on warrants obtained by Utah State Tax Commission special agents Tuesday. His business partner, Charles Brandon Snively, 38, remains at large.

They face three second degree charges and one third degree felony related to a parking enforcement and private security firm that Vigil owned. Those charges include tax evasion, unlawful dealing of property by a fiduciary, engaging in a pattern of unlawful activity (racketeering), and failure to render a proper tax return.

"The investigation showed that although the company issued W2 forms to employees, Vigil and Snively never applied for a withholding tax license and withholding funds were never filed nor remitted to the State," said Charlie Roberts, Tax Commission spokesman.

Roberts said the investigation revealed that the company divided the management responsibilities between Vigil and Snively.

"The theft of employee withholding taxes is a serious offense because those taxes are used to hire teachers and fund education. The bottom line is it hurts our children," Roberts said.

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